Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan (*Food Grains Purchase Officer*): Yes.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: May I know from the honourable member whether tapioca is sold at the prices fixed by Government anywhere in Travancore?

Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan: Yes, Sir, everywhere.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: May I know whether any action has been taken against any one who does not sell at that rate?

Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan: No action has yet been taken.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan (*Nominated*): തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഭാഗത്തു ഗവൺമെൻറു നിയന്ത്രിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള വിലയ്ക്കു കൂടുവിൽക്കുന്നതായിട്ടറിയാമോ?

Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan: ഗവൺമെൻറു നിയന്ത്രിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള വിലയ്ക്കല്ലാതെ വിൽക്കുന്നതായിട്ടറിയാൻ പാടില്ല.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan: യാതൊരു സ്ഥലത്തും ഗവൺമെൻറു നിശ്ചയിച്ച വിലയ്ക്കു വിൽക്കുന്നില്ല. ഇതിലേയ്ക്കു പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാക്കാൻ ഭയവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan: അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള വിവരങ്ങളെക്കുറിച്ചു് അറിയിച്ചാൽ തീർച്ചയായും അതിനെപ്പറ്റി അന്വേഷണം നടത്താൻ ഗവൺമെൻറിനു താല്പര്യമുണ്ടു്.

UNSTARRED QUESTION AND ANSWER.

Camp shed at Perumbavoor.

1. **Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha cum Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of persons who have halted at the camp shed at Perumbavoor during 1118;

(*b*) whether the camp shed at Perumbavoor is supported on all sides by mud walls and roofing supported by pillars on all sides;

(*c*) whether the camp shed is safe and convenient for halting and what is the age of that camp shed building; and

(*d*) whether there is sufficient water in the well in the camp shed throughout the year and whether there is scarcity of water during any part of the year?

Mr. I. C. Chacko (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Irrigation and Miscellaneous*): (*a*) 195.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes. Information *re*: the age of the building is not available.

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(*d*) Yes, in normal years ; but there will be scarcity of water in the dry months in the years of extreme drought.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT.

President : Order, order. Honourable members might perhaps be aware that in another place, I gave a kind of review on the food situation and the developments of that situation. It is only right that I should take this House into my confidence in regard to these matters affecting the policy of Government. And I now proceed to do so.

But before proceeding to discharge that function, let me point out that I have received notices of two adjournment motions. One of these motions is by Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar and it reads :

> 'The business of the House be adjourned for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the inadequate supply of rice to this State and the difficulties in the transport of the same.''

The other motion is by Mr. Fletcher and reads :

> 'I beg leave to move that the business of the House be adjourned for discussing a matter of urgent public importance, namely the serious situation arising out of the compulsory sale of bajra, cholam and wheat to the poor people as a condition necessary for their right to purchase rice for their food.'

Both these matters are of fundamental importance and if the honourable members concerned are willing to club those two together so as to talk on the food situation, I shall be very glad to allow the fullest opportunity to members of this House to discuss their point of view. I would only suggest this, that it is likely that the official business of today may end fairly quickly, before one o'clock. Is it the desire of the House that we should meet at 3-30 or shall we go on straight with the discussion of the adjournment motion ? I leave it for the decision of the House.

(It was decided to continue the discussion of the adjournment motion after the business for the day was finished.)

I find that the proof copy of my speech else where has not been got ready yet and cannot be placed on the table of the House now, but I hope to place the speech to-morrow on the table of the House. As I took over an hour in delivering it and indicated practically all the aspects and points of view and gave the figures, it might be useful to honourable members to have a copy of the speech for their reference. But I shall summarise that speech and give its main features in the remarks that I am now proposing to make.

Firstly, I shall deal with the subject matter of the adjournment motion tabled by Mr. Fletcher, namely, the compulsory sale of other kinds of foodstuffs in addition to rice. In order that

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